

2016 Annual Highlights

**Laurel Municipal Center
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www.cityoflaurel.org
Craig A. Moe, Mayor**

Message from the Mayor



Hello Laurel Citizens,

I am happy to present to you the City of Laurel 2016 Annual Highlights Report.

As you can see from this overview, your elected officials and City Staff have had a busy and productive year.

I invite you to visit our website, www.cityoflaurel.org, for a more detailed report and our Annual Budget Document.

Hopefully our momentum will inspire you to become more involved with your City government. We have many opportunities available for volunteers of all interests and ages and I encourage you to join us!

The involvement of our citizens is a key component to Team Laurel. With your help and input, we will continue to be the great community we are.

Thank You!

Craig A. Moe, Mayor

Message from the City Council



Valerie M.A. Nicholas
City Council
Ward 1



H. Edward Ricks
City Council
Ward 1



Michael R. Leszcz
City Council President
At Large



Frederick Smalls
City Council
Ward 2



Donna L. Crary
City Council
Ward 2

Dear Residents and Business Owners,

This publication is a true testament to just how hard your City Leaders and Staff have worked to make sure that the Citizens of Laurel receive the finest services they so richly deserve.

As your Council President, it's my job, working with my City Council Colleagues, to continue the efforts we have made on your behalf this year. We continue to support and share the vision of Mayor Craig A. Moe in his work on behalf of the City of Laurel. Though our shared vision for the City is an ambitious one, with your continued support, we will continue to meet your needs and expectations.

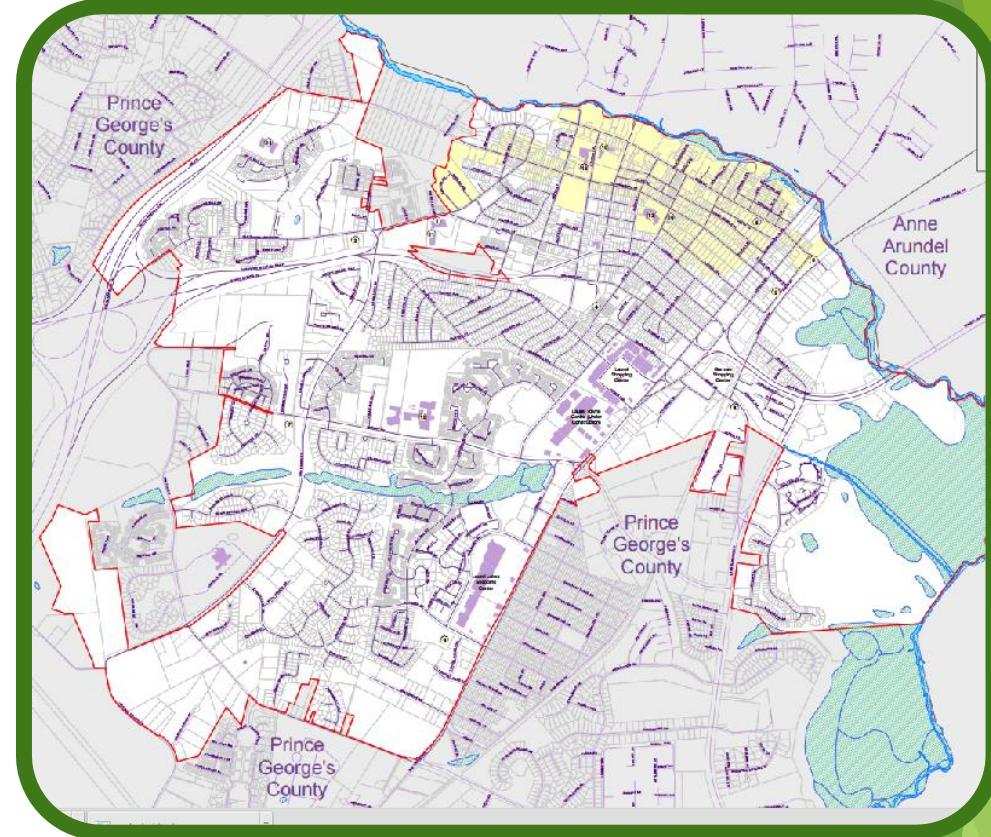
This year we have continued working very hard to "Save Our Stop" and to keep the Laurel Regional Hospital from closing and abandoning us. It can't be done without you, so keep letting your voices be heard!

This Council is very proud of each and every accomplishment revealed herein and we want to thank those responsible for all their hard work. We also would like you to know, that as your Elected Officials, we are making every effort possible to make sure that great things continue to happen in 2017 and the years to come.

Sincerely
Michael R. Leszcz
Council President

Snapshot of the City of Laurel

- Total Square Miles - 5.5
- 2016 Population - 25,000+
- Number of Businesses - 1,000+
- Dwelling Units - 11,707
- Full-time Employees - 198
- Laurel has its own Full-Service Police Department and its own Zoning Authority and Fire Marshal.



Office of the Mayor

As the leading elected official of the City, the Mayor is empowered to approve or veto legislation, provide an annual budget for City services and have direct supervision of government administration for all citizens and businesses of the City.



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Office of the Mayor

Laurel Regional Hospital

Mayor Moe served as Co-Chair of the Laurel Regional Hospital Strategic Plan Working Group and as a member of the Clinical Operations Subcommittee, continuing the City's involvement in the redevelopment of the Laurel Regional Hospital under the authority of the University of Maryland Medical System.

Hosted Meetings

One of the main objectives of the Office of the Mayor is to stay in constant contact with local, state and federal agencies. To that end, the Mayor's Office held multiple meetings with the Governor, Lt. Governor, State Senators and Delegates, County Executive, County Council Members, State's Attorney, U.S. Congress Representatives, Laurel Clergy, and Laurel School Principals.

Government to the People

Mayor Moe's "Government to the People" initiative helps keep residents in touch with what's happening in Laurel through different programs. To fulfill this goal, the Mayor's Office hosted "City Hall in the Park" town meetings, which offers an informal setting for residents to meet with City Officials and management staff; hosted "My Time with the Mayor" Program that gives a one on one meeting with Mayor Moe to express any concerns and questions they may have and attended Neighborhood Watch Programs and Homeowners' Association Meetings throughout the City.

Mayor's Summer Jobs Program

The "Mayor's Summer Jobs Program," in its 7th year, employed 13 students ages 14 – 16 for 8 weeks in 2016. The Mayor's Summer Jobs Program is open to Laurel youth who are City residents. Youth in the program must have written permission from their parents or guardians to participate in the program and provide a Work Permit available from their school Guidance Office. The daily work schedule will vary depending upon the Department the position is assigned to, but in no case will exceed 20 hours per week on average.

Maryland General Assembly

Participated in and monitored the 90-day Maryland General Assembly Legislative Session in Annapolis, supporting legislation for Laurel and other municipalities

Created New Position

The first "Chief of Staff" position was created in the Office of the Mayor.

Youth Services Commission

The Mayor's Office provided research and prepared for the implementation of a City of Laurel Youth Services Commission. The Commission's role is to identify, monitor and evaluate youth services, programs, and activities offered in the City of Laurel and surrounding area. The Commission will provide grants to assist Laurel Youth Organizations.





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Office of the City Council

The City Council is the legislative body of the City of Laurel and as elected representatives of the citizens, consider and enact resolutions, regulations, and ordinances for the protection of rights and privileges, peace and good government, and safety and health of all citizens.

Office of the City Council

Councilmember Michael Leszcz

Mr. Leszcz was appointed to the 2017 Transportation and Infrastructure Services (TIS) Federal Advocacy Committee. As a member of the committee, he will play a key role in shaping NLC's policy positions and advocate on behalf of America's cities and towns before Congress, with the new Administration and at home. The TIS committee has the lead responsibility for developing NLC's federal policy positions on issues involving transportation, including planning, funding, safety and security of public transit, streets and highways, aviation, railroads and ports. Mr. Leszcz's appointment was announced by NLC President Matt Zone, Councilmember for Cleveland.

Councilmember Donna Crary

Ms. Crary was elected to serve her seventh term on the Maryland Municipal League (MML) Board of Directors in June 2016. MML's mission is to strengthen and support municipal government through advocacy and development of effective leadership. Ms. Crary also chairs the City's Community Redevelopment Authority (CRA). The CRA was created to be the City's principal development/redevelopment authority with a focus on creating additional economic development opportunities for property owners within the City to upgrade, enhance, demolish or revitalize properties offering superior amenities, land uses, and superior land design. The CRA recently purchased property on Main Street and created a public parking lot.

Councilmember Fred Smalls

Mr. Smalls was appointed to serve on the Maryland Municipal League (MML) Conference Planning Committee in June 2016. This committee is responsible for setting the educational sessions, guest speakers and social events for the annual summer conference. Mr. Smalls also serves on the City of Laurel Planning Commission. The Commission holds public hearings on all matters relating to development and zoning within the City. The Commission is empowered to render decisions by resolution on all development and zoning issues.

Councilmember H. Edward Ricks

Mr. Ricks continues to lead the efforts to "Save our Stop" after a proposed development north of the city in Howard County threatened to eliminate the City's historic MARC train station. Mr. Ricks also serves as Chair of the City's Transportation and Public Safety Committee. The Committee is charged with making recommendations and giving other needed advisory services to the Mayor and City Council, Director of Public Works and the Chief of Police on matters related to transportation, public safety and citizens with disabilities.

Councilmember Valerie Nicholas

Councilmember Valerie Nicholas serves on the City's Tree Board, was instrumental in awarding the Holiday Spirit Awards and is involved with Laurel Winter Shelter providing shelter, meals and other incidentals, to those in need in Laurel.



Office of the Clerk

It is the responsibility of the Clerk to the City Council to provide assistance to the City Council and to maintain and preserve all required legislation in accordance with State, County and City Codes. The Clerk's Office also provides administrative and reporting coverage of the Mayor and City Council meetings.



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Office of the Clerk

Kim Rau, Clerk to the Council

Kimberley Rau, MMC, Clerk completed her term as a member of the Board of Directors for the International Institute of Municipal Clerks in May 2016. IIMC's leadership is a 26-member Board of Directors consisting of 22 Region Directors. Region Directors' term lengths are three years. IIMC's primary goal is to actively promote the continuing education and professional development of municipal clerks through extensive education programs, certification, publications, networking, annual conferences and research. Ms. Rau received her Master Municipal Clerk designation in July 2011.

Ana Navarro, Administrative Assistant

Ana Navarro, Administrative Assistant in the Office of the Clerk, is an active member of IIMC working towards her Certified Municipal Clerk (CMC) designation. To earn the CMC designation, a Municipal Clerk must attend extensive education programs. The CMC designation also requires pertinent experience in a municipality. The CMC program prepares the applicants to meet the challenges of the complex role of the Municipal Clerk by providing them with quality education in partnership with institutions of higher learning, as well as State/Provincial/ National.



Office of the City Administrator

The City Administrator directs and coordinates the general administration of the City government.

In addition to the day-to-day operations of the City government, the Office of the City Administrator is responsible for insurance management, budget preparation, emergency operations and other projects as assigned by the Mayor.



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Office of the City Administrator

Reorganization of the Department of Community Planning and Business Services

The Department of Community Planning and Business Services was divided into two separate departments. The new departments are now the Department of Economic and Community Development and the Office of the Fire Marshal and Permit Services. Jack Brock was appointed the Director of Department of Economic and Community Development and Dave Cope was appointed the Director of the Office of the Fire Marshal and Permit Services. All services in each department remain the same.

Emergency Services Coordinator Hired

In August 2016, the City hired Stephen Allen, Sr. as the new City Emergency Services Coordinator. Mr. Allen comes with a vast knowledge of experience including FEMA, BWI Airport, Prince Georges and Howard County.

9-11 Memorial Monument

After the September 11, 2001 terror attacks, a piece of the twin towers steel was obtained by the City of Laurel. The steel has been mounted to a memorial, which is located in front of the Municipal Center. The monument was dedicated on September 11, 2016 in remembrance of September 11, 2001 attacks.

Participated with the HEPAC Group

The Maryland Municipal League's (MML) Hometown Emergency Preparedness Ad Hoc Committee (HEPAC) is a critical committee within the MML, which provides leadership, guidance, and direction for all the municipalities within the State of Maryland regarding emergency management practices, guidelines and processes. The Mayor, who is the chairperson, the City Administrator, the Director of Parks and Recreation and the Emergency Manager, represent the City of Laurel on this committee.

Right-of-Way Transfer of Dorset Road

Dorset Road was a privately-owned roadway that had severely deteriorated over the years. City of Laurel staff attended numerous homeowner association meetings in the communities surrounding Dorset Road regarding this matter. City staff also worked with private property owners and the City Solicitor for months to come to an agreement to transfer ownership of the roadway to the City of Laurel, allowing for the repair of the road and ensuring the proper maintenance is completed in the future.

Right-of-Way Transfers of Old Sandy Spring Road, Haynes Road and Brooklyn Bridge Road

The City Administrator's Office, along with the City Solicitor, worked with Prince George's County Department of Public Works and Transportation for months on an agreement that would transfer ownership and maintenance of Old Sandy Spring Road, Haynes Road and Brooklyn Bridge Road to the City of Laurel. This agreement will allow the City of Laurel Police Department to enforce speeding and traffic laws on these roadways and increase the safety of citizens.



Office of the City Administrator

2016 Flood Insurance Rate Map Revisions

In November 2016, FEMA revised and updated the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) rate maps for the City of Laurel. Included in this revision was a new Flood Insurance Study (FIS) along with a new Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM), which designates those areas and properties located within a designated flood zone, which directly reflects the cost of flood insurance for both commercial and non-commercial properties. This program is a vital piece of the City's overall economic and community development plan that directly affects property owners and structures within.

Initiated Efforts to Convert Communication to the NEXT GEN 911 System

For more than 40 years, the 911 system has served the needs of the public in emergencies. Next Generation 911 will enhance the 911 system to create a faster, more flexible and scalable system that allows 911 to keep up with communications technology used by the public. Next Generation 911 is an Internet Protocol system that allows digital information (e.g., voice, photos, videos, text messages) to flow seamlessly from the public through the 911 network and on to emergency responders.

Main Street Festival

The Mayor and City Council supports the Board of Trade with the Main Street Festival. The festival takes place every year on the first Saturday in May. Main Street is completely closed to traffic between Route 1 South and 7th Street allowing thousands of people to walk up and down Main Street to enjoy the food vendors, arts and crafts and to listen to the bands.

Implementation for On Line Payments on City Web Site

Citizens can now pay for all Rental Licenses online. Payments for other services will be coming soon.

Participated in the Back to School Jam

Mayor and City Council supports the Laurel Board of Trade in the Back to School Jam, which is a school supply give-a-way for City residents on a first come first serve basis at the Granville Gude Park.



Participated in the July 4th Celebration

The City's 4th of July Celebration takes place on the first Saturday in July. The celebration is a daylong festival, which starts off with a parade, then consists of contests, music, food and of course a 45 minute firework display over Granville Gude Lake starting at 9:15pm.



Participated in the National Night Out

National Night was created to inform the public about various police and community programs such as drug prevention initiatives and neighborhood watch groups to keep people safe and to fight crime in neighborhoods. Events consist of demonstrations from the Laurel Police Department, Laurel Volunteer Fire Department, Laurel Rescue Squad, Prince George's County Bomb squad and as well as lots of activities for children.

Participated in the Trick or Treat on Main Street

The Laurel Board of Trade's Trick or Treat on Main Street is scheduled the Thursday before Halloween from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. Costumed children can visit participating Main Street merchants who will be handing out treats.



Emergency Operations

Debris Management Program

This Federally (FEMA) approved program establishes the guidelines for the City of Laurel to use in the event of a disaster or major incident involving the removal of debris, both green debris (trees, etc) and construction debris (building materials) from the community. This is one of the most critical operations during an disaster and we are one of the few governmental entities, within Maryland, to have such a comprehensive approved plan.

Continuity of Operations Plan (COOP)

This comprehensive plan provides the necessary processes used when there is a disruption of governmental services due to a natural or man-made disaster/event. This plan provides the necessary steps and guidelines used by every department and office within the City to ensure continued operations in support of all the citizens of Laurel during a disaster or event that causes a disruption in these services. This plan is highly critical for these services.

“Citizens Helping Citizens - A Community Services Program”

This new program provides an avenue for high school students to perform community services, which is a requirement for graduation. This program provides critical services to our senior and handicap citizens who need help during snow events within the City. Additionally, this program provides an opportunity to bring together our young citizens and older needy citizens to advance, enhance, and improve our overall community relationships.



Budget and Personnel Services

The Budget and Personnel Services Department's responsibility to the City of Laurel and its citizens is to ensure that adequate controls exist in order to protect the City's funds and maintain adequate and accurate records of all financial transactions. They strive for the performance level necessary to achieve a favorable certified audit in order to maintain our current "A" bond rating and eligibility for Federal grant funds. The Department must maintain strict cash controls, diligent monitoring and reconciliation of monies to maintain adequate cash flow.



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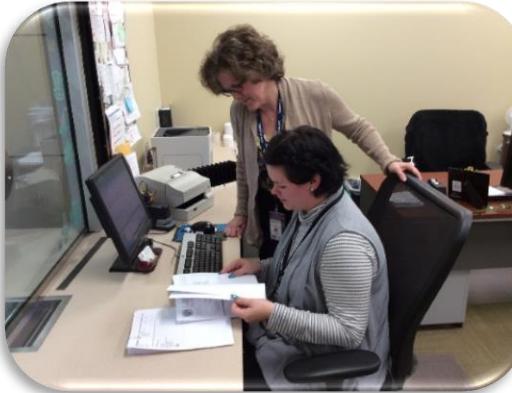
Budget and Personnel Services

Taking Payments On-line

In July of 2016, a team of employees from BAPS, IT and the Office of the Fire Marshal and Permit Services were able to successfully implement the program to accept online payments for Business Licenses. The team from BAPS continues to work with the IT Department to finalize the process to accept online payments for Special Refuse Collection invoices.

HR Process Cross Training

The current Human Resources Officer has been with the City for almost 40 years, 15 as Human Resources Officer. With retirement scheduled for June of 2018, it is not too soon to start cross training. The Benefits Clerk and the Payroll Clerk have been working on documentation for processing retirements, resignations, grievances, budgeting, pension valuation, and regulatory reports.



Pitching In

During 2016, there were two medical-related long-term absences. The team in BAPS didn't skip a beat. The budget was delivered to the City Council in accordance with the Charter, even though the Payroll Clerk and Deputy Director were involved with aspects with which they did not have experience. Additionally, in the absence of the Accounts Receivable Clerk, all functions were performed and managed while the Payroll Clerk and Fiscal Clerk managed their own regular responsibilities. Cross-training is an ongoing priority in the Department of Budget and Personnel Services!



Communications

The Department of Communications provides useful information to residents, businesses, and employees within the City limits of Laurel and the greater Laurel area. They develop, prepare, and coordinate the release of official news advisories and disseminates news on the City's website, cityoflaurel.org, the public access television station, Laurel TV and its companion website LaurelTV.org, the mobile My Laurel App and through outreach on Social Media sites. They work closely with other Departments in the City to spread news about the Mayor's Government to the People program and other activities that allow people to live, work, and enjoy the City of Laurel.



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Communications

New Television Studio

The Department of Communications unveiled a new, state-of-the-art television studio on April 13, 2016. The Director immediately requested and received a high definition channel from Comcast - making Laurel the second municipality in Prince George's County to broadcast in HD. You can now view Laurel TV in HD on Comcast channel 996 and in SD on Comcast channel 71 and Verizon channel 12.



Laurel TV Specials

The studio is already proving to be a vital resource for community access programming on Laurel TV which broadcasted six major Special Reports on community events and issues in 2016 including:

- the Zika outbreak sweeping the country;
- Diabetes Awareness Month;
- A dynamic, 30-minute special on the Main Street Festival;
- An Historical program on the Emancipation Day Festivities and what it means for the African American community of Laurel;
- An Election Special called "Your Voice, Your Vote: The 2016 Presidential Election" and
- A special on the 100 Year Flood Plain and how to get insurance from FEMA.

City of Laurel Passports

The Department of Communications is also responsible for the Passport Office and Front Desk. A new photo badge system for visitors was installed to improve safety and security. And the Passport Office hours were extended to provide customers additional and more convenient times to get their Passports processed.



Economic and Community Development

The Department of Economic and Community Development maintains and oversees the built environment within the

City of Laurel. The department is responsible for zoning compliance, subdivision and development review, historic preservation review, economic development, affordable housing, and implementation of the City's Master Plan.

These activities are intended to improve the life quality in the City. Department staff strive to provide these services in a timely and efficient manner while promoting high-quality development which is compliant with State of Maryland regulations and statutes.



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Economic and Community Development

Master Plan

The Economic and Community Development Department reviewed and updated the City's Comprehensive Master Plan. The Master Plan sets forth recommendations for the future development and growth of the City. Specific recommendations are made for the many elements integral to the functioning of the City including land use proposals, transportation concerns, capital improvements, as well as the physical and living environments.

Economic Development

In 2016, over \$40,000 was awarded to grant recipients who submitted applications to the Main Street Economic Development Program. Furthermore, the Program was analyzed to determine the validity of it. Program Changes were made to better benefit property owners on Main Street and business owners that would like to locate to the area.

Moreover, the Commercial Corridor Economic Development Program was established for the Route One Corridor. The purpose of the Program is to support City businesses, which serve as a means for increased job opportunities, expanded tax base and an improved quality of life for the community.



Fire Marshal and Permit Services

The Office of the Fire Marshal and Permit Services is charged with enforcing City Codes and Ordinances relating to building and property standards. The Department is responsible for protecting the public health, safety and welfare by enforcing the City's Building Codes. In the performance of these duties, the Department issues permits and performs inspections for all construction and development-related activities within the City of Laurel including building occupancies, signs, rental licenses, and electrical work.



Dave Cope
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Fire Marshal and Permit Services

Department Split and Created New Positions

In the summer of 2016, the Office of the Fire Marshal and Permit Services became a new department when it split from the Department of Economic and Community Development. This Department has since hired three new employees which include an Administrative Specialist, (Auxiliary) Code Enforcement Officer and Building Inspector I.

Building Projects

The Office of the Fire Marshal and Permit Services started inspections for the Residences at Towne Centre project, conducted inspections of various City businesses for potential holiday overstock and blocking of aisles; conducted inspections of new businesses at Towne Centre at Laurel and continued inspections at the Laurel Gardens redevelopment project.

Completed the following inspections: the Westside development, review of New Construction plans for Towne Centre at Laurel, inspections of Avalon Bay Development, plan review and inspections of The Goddard School on Park Center Drive, inspections of the Laurel Library reconstruction project, plan review and began inspections of townhouses at Westside Ridge.

Community Outreach

The Fire Marshal and Permit Services Department installed smoke detectors in over twenty homes, held a Fire Safety Talk with Senior Citizens, received a grant for smoke detectors and Fire Prevention Shows, created monthly public safety cable production of the City's Annual 4th of July celebration, inspected booths and attended the City's Main Street Festival and several staff members produced and participated in Fire Prevention Month shows at four local schools.

In-Office Accomplishments

The Office of the Fire Marshal and Permit Services received the 2015 Life Safety Achievement Award in October 2016. MDE (Maryland Department of the Environment) granted the City's delegation request for the next two years after the City successfully completed MDE's audit. Conducted approximately 6,727 inspections. Code Enforcement division handled 2,184 City code violations, issued approximately 2,687 permits and roughly 1,690 licenses. Fire Marshal Dave Cope served as the City's representative to the Metro Fire Chief's Association, participated in the Emergency Services Commission Meetings and attended monthly Committee Meetings.



Information Technology

The Department of Information Technology is committed to providing the systems necessary to enable employees to achieve their goals, to support computer training throughout the City, and to assist the City in effective management, administration and service operation and in delivery of its services; to provide the widest possible access to computer systems; and, to provide appropriate support in the use of these systems.



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Information Technology

Security

The Information Technology Department installed a networked Intrusion Detection System along with security cameras at several of our buildings. The new technology can be monitored by the Laurel Police Communications Division. The system has no monitoring cost, immediate alarm notification, and the cameras can be monitored by our on duty public safety dispatchers.

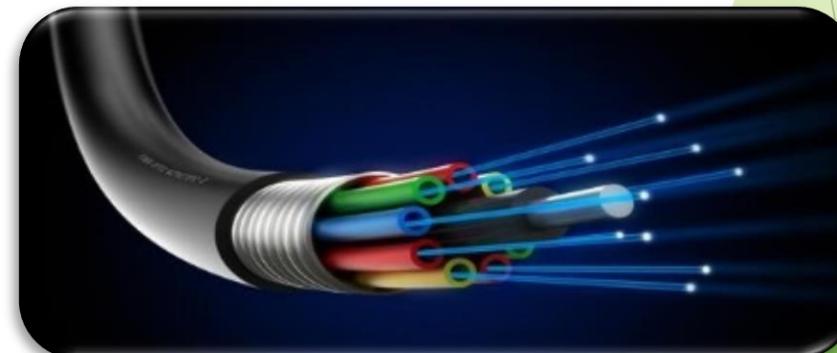
Fiber

Constructed subsurface telecommunications fiber to the Laurel Armory, Alice B. McCullough field, Sturgis-Moore Recreation Area, and Emancipation Park. This telecommunication fiber has allowed us to deploy public WIFI and security cameras at Emancipation Park. In the Spring of 2017 we will deploy public WIFI and security cameras to the other parks in the area.



New Website Launched

The Department of Information Technology released a new web site in the Spring. It is more intuitive and easier to find what you are looking for. It is also mobile- and tablet-friendly and provides drop down menus and interactive maps that will guide you to the answers you are looking for.



Parks and Recreation

The Department of Parks and Recreation is a full service agency that maintains and operates six facilities and 19 park sites encompassing over 222 acres of parkland. The Department offers a comprehensive program for Parks and Recreation to ensure the delivery of a variety of leisure services and facilities that enhance and enrich the quality of life for the residents of the City of Laurel.



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Parks and Recreation

Laurel Armory Renovations

Parks and Recreation is very pleased that the long awaited final phase of renovations to the Laurel Armory Anderson & Murphy Community Center is just about complete. Visitors to the Community Center can now access the site through the new ADA accessible entrance right into the lower level which has brand new state of the art fitness room, expanded dance room, meeting space and restrooms. The entire facility has been transformed with the refinishing of the floors to the original wood that was installed in 1927.



New Recreation Software

The Department rolled out a new recreation software package that featured many more user friendly functions and expanded on line registration.

Laurel Lakes

Once the Lake dredging project at Granville Gude Park was completed by Prince Georges County, the Department provided much needed landscaping and fencing as well as resurfacing to the entire walking path. Additionally, a new high adventure playground system replaced the old play structure.



Emancipation Community Park Reopened

The Department was excited to rededicate and reopen Emancipation Community Park. The former site, partially destroyed by fire, has been transformed into an environmentally friendly space complete with stone amphitheater, water feature, accessible playground with turf surfacing, picnic pavilion and lighted basketball court. The land exchange with Prince George's County to expand the new library at the old park site resulted in beautiful open space that is a welcome enhancement to the community.



Laurel Police Department

The Laurel Police Department is a full-service law enforcement agency providing law enforcement services to all citizens and visitors of the City of Laurel twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week.

The primary services include police patrol of residential communities and business, response to emergency and non-emergency calls for police service and the investigation of all violent and property crimes.



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Laurel Police Department

Speed Enforcement Program

The Laurel Police Department maintained and added to the “Safe School Zone” automated speed program, as well as added additional Red Light Automated Enforcement Cameras.

Public Safety

Maintained the Automatic External Defibrillators (AED) placed in all police vehicles to ensure the health and well being of the citizens of Laurel.

To increase public safety during emergencies, the Laurel Police Department designed and ordered a new SWAT jump out and transport vehicle, continued and increased personnel wear camera program 100% of Patrol officers.

In the Schools

Continued a teen dating dating/sexual assault awareness program in the High School. The laurel Police Department also added an additional officer to the DARE program while maintaining the DARE program in four local schools.

Community Programs

The Laurel Police Department maintained a pink police car for breast cancer awareness; continued their Domestic Violence Program; Maintained the Drug Turn In Box for disposal of unwanted/unneeded drugs; completed over 35 ride-along opportunities, allowing citizens to experience police work; and completed a promotional process for sworn staff.



Laurel Police Department

Patrol Division

Calls for Service - January to November:

Calls for service:	45,256
Adult arrests	800
Juvenile arrests	110
DUI/DWI arrests	147
Accident Reports	504
Incident Reports	4002
Parking Citations	2183
Traffic Citations	5361
Equipment Repair Orders	935
Warning Citations	2580

Community Events

Special Olympics

- Tip a Cop Fundraiser
- Winter Games
- Regional Meeting
- Summer Games
- Cops on Roof Tops
- Deep Creek Dunk
- Photo – Op for Plunge
- Torch Run events



Public Works

The Department of Public Works provides services that include residential and commercial refuse and recycling collection, street and sidewalk maintenance/repair, storm drain maintenance, tree management, engineering solutions for public safety, management of the Capital Improvement Program, which includes upgrading roads, sidewalks, curbs and gutters, maintenance of the automotive fleet, snow and ice removal and quick and effective responses to inclement weather damage. Our mission is to provide the best possible services to our residents in the most efficient, professional and economical way possible.



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Public Works

Dorset Road

Public Works completed the reconstruction of Dorset Road. This work included new sidewalk installations, pedestrian ramp upgrades, curb and gutter replacements, LED street light installations, a retaining wall, deep patch asphalt repairs and resurfacing. The completed project enhances both pedestrian and vehicular safety.



Van Dusen Road Bike Path

Completed the construction of Van Dusen Road Bike Path. This 10-foot wide path provides bicyclists and pedestrians a safe travel environment along Van Dusen Road. It also connects the missing link along Van Dusen Road. After the completion of this project, pedestrians can walk or bike on the east side of Van Dusen Road from Contee Road all the way to Sandy Spring Road. This project received a MDOT grant of \$240,000 for design and construction.

Recycling Grant

Awarded an MDE Electronics Recycling Grant in the amount of \$4,250, allowing for additional electronics recycling events. Electronics recycling, both curbside and recycling events, resulted in over 120,000 lbs. of electronics recycled.

Snow Removal

At the start of 2016, the region was hit with a massive snow fall. Public Works worked around the clock to keep streets clear for emergency vehicles and then hit secondary roads to ensure that residents would be able to get out in a timely fashion.



Standing Goals for the City of Laurel

- ▶ Continue to improve the long-term financial stability of the City of Laurel;
- ▶ Continue to add Public Safety Enhancements to better serve the residents and businesses in case of an emergency;
- ▶ Continue to promote Economic Development;
 - ▶ Continue outreach efforts through the Government to the People Program; and
 - ▶ Recruit and retain quality City staff.

Happy Retirement!

Effective March 31, 2016, Parks and Recreation Director, Mike Lhotsky, who began his career with the City of Laurel in 1976, retired.

He was hired in 1976 as a Senior Recreation Leader and rose through the ranks over the years. He was appointed Director of Parks and Recreation in 2001.

Mayor Moe says, “Mike has been a great part of this Administration. He is a great team leader, an innovative planner, and has built a strong, unified and cooperative Department. Mike has developed strong relationships with citizens, citizen groups, City Committees, City businesses, as well as with his peers and co-workers. Mike will be missed by many.”

Mr. Lhotsky is enjoying his retirement hitting a golf ball up and down the fairway. When he's not on a golf course, he continues to serve his community through the American Legion Post 60, helping the Laurel 4th of July Committee raise funds for the annual celebration and spending time with his family. Thank you Mike for the many years of service to the citizens of Laurel!





Thank You!

The Mayor, City Council and City Staff wish you and your family a safe and enjoyable 2017.

Please contact any of your elected officials or City staff if you have any questions or need assistance at 301-725-5300.

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